AMENDMENT

Unmarked Version

In the claims:

23. (New) A graphical user interface (GUI) of a player/recorder system comprising:

a first display portion including a plurality of control boxes each to control a corresponding one or more of a plurality of tracks of each of a plurality of audio processing modules; and

a second display portion including a central control mechanism for substantially simultaneously controlling all of the plurality of tracks of each of the plurality of audio processing modules.

24. (New) The GUI of Claim 23, wherein one of plurality of control boxes corresponds to an assigned function and an assigned one of the tracks and wherein the control box is selectable to transmit a control command to an audio processing module having the one of the tracks to perform the assigned function.

25. (New) The GUI of Claim 24, wherein the one of the plurality of control boxes comprises a record button of a specific track and wherein the record button is selectable to transmit a record command to an audio processing module having the specific track to cause the specific track to record an audio sound.

26. (New) The GUI of Claim 23, wherein the central control mechanism is selectable to transmit a global control command associated with the central control

mechanism to the plurality of audio processing modules to perform a function assigned to the global control command.

27. (New) The GUI of Claim 23, wherein the second display portion further comprises a global play button selectable to control the tracks of the audio processing modules.

28. (New) The GUI of Claim 27, wherein the global play button is selectable to transmit a global play command to the plurality of audio processing modules to cause all the tracks to each play an audio sound.

29. (New) The GUI of Claim 23, wherein the second display portion includes a global stop button to control the tracks of the audio processing modules.

30. (New) The GUI of Claim 23, wherein the first display portion further comprises a single audio processing module control box into which all of the control boxes of a particular audio processing module can selectively be collapsed.

31. (New) The GUI of Claim 23, wherein the one or more of the plurality of tracks of the first display portion are player tracks and wherein the GUI further comprises a third display portion including a plurality of recorder control boxes each to control a corresponding one or more of a plurality of recorder tracks of each of the plurality of audio processing modules.

32. (New) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing modules each having one or more tracks and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling each

of the one or more tracks of the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising:

generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first display portion including a plurality of control boxes to control a corresponding one or more of a plurality of tracks of each of the plurality of audio processing modules; and

generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the second display portion including a central control mechanism for simultaneously controlling all of the plurality of tracks of each of the plurality of audio processing modules.

33. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising:

selecting one of the control boxes corresponding to one of the tracks;

transmitting a control command associated with the one of the control boxes from the computer system to an audio processing module having the one of the tracks; and

performing a function assigned to the control command at the audio processing module.

34. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising:

selecting a record button of a specific track;

transmitting a record command from the computer system to an audio processing module having the specific track; and

causing the specific track to record an audio sound by the audio processing module.

35. (New) The method of Claim 32 further comprising:

selecting the central control mechanism;

transmitting a global control command associated with the central control mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and

each audio processing module, performing a function assigned to the global control command by the audio processing module.

36. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein the central control mechanism comprises a global play command for simultaneously controlling all of the loaded player tracks of the plurality of tracks of the audio processing modules and wherein the method further comprises:

selecting the global play command;

transmitting the global play command from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and

each audio processing module, causing all the loaded player tracks to each play an audio sound.

37. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the central control mechanism comprises a global stop command for simultaneously controlling all of the loaded tracks of the plurality of audio tracks of the audio processing modules and wherein the method further comprises:

selecting the global stop command;

transmitting the global stop command from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and

each audio processing module, causing all the loaded tracks to each stop any play or record activity.

38. (New) The method of Claim 33:

wherein each audio processing modules has one or more input/output ("I/O") channels each connected to the computer system;

wherein the control boxes control a corresponding one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules;

wherein transmitting the control command comprises transmitting the control command from the computer system to the audio processing module having the I/O channel corresponding to the specified control box; and

wherein performing a function comprises performing a task assigned to the control command by the audio processing module with respect to the I/O channel.

39. (New) The method of Claim 35:

wherein each audio processing module has one or more input/output ("I/O") channels each connected to the computer system;

wherein the central control mechanism controls all of the one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules;

wherein transmitting the global command comprises global control command associated with the central control mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and

wherein performing a function comprises performing a task assigned to the global command by each audio processing module with respect to all of the I/O channels.

40. (New) An apparatus for controlling a plurality of audio processing modules in a player/recorder system, each of the plurality of audio processing modules having one or more input/output ("I/O") channels, the apparatus comprising:

a display;

a storage device containing routines to control the audio processing modules and generate displays;

an interface to the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules; and

a processor coupled to the storage device to produce

a first display portion of a graphical user interface including a plurality of control boxes to control corresponding I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules, and

a second display portion of the graphical user interface including a central control mechanism to substantially simultaneously control all of the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules.

41. (New) The apparatus of Claim 40, further comprising a selection device to select one of the control boxes corresponding to one of the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules.

42. (New) The apparatus of Claim 41, wherein the selection device is a keyboard.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the selection device is a mouse.

44. (New) The apparatus of Claim 41, wherein the interface comprises an I/O device to transmit a control command associated with the one of the control boxes selected by the selection device to audio processing modules having the selected I/O channels.

45. (New) The apparatus of Claim 41, wherein the interface comprises an I/O device to transmit a global control command associated with the central control mechanism to all of the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules.

46. (New) The apparatus of Claim 40, further comprising the plurality of audio processing modules, each of which to receive the commands from the interface on its corresponding I/O channel and perform a function assigned to the command with respect to the corresponding I/O channel.

47. (New) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

generating a first display portion on a display of a player/recorder system, the first display portion including a plurality of control boxes to control a corresponding one or more of a plurality of tracks of each of a plurality of audio processing modules; and

generating a second display portion on the display, the second display portion including a central control mechanism for simultaneously controlling all of the plurality of tracks of each of the plurality of audio processing modules.

48. (New) The medium of Claim 47, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising:

receiving a selection of one of the control boxes corresponding to one of the tracks; and

transmitting a control command associated with the one of the control boxes to an audio processing module having the one of the tracks.

49. (New) The medium of Claim 47, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising:

receiving a selection of the central control mechanism; and

transmitting a global control command associated with the central control mechanism to the plurality of audio processing modules.